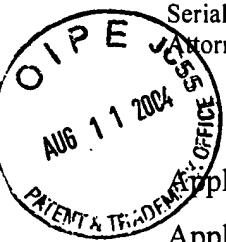


PATENT  
Serial No. 09/876,742  
Attorney Docket No. 450100-03274



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants : MIYAUCHI, Toshiyuki *et al.*  
Appl. No. : 09/876,742  
Filed : June 7, 2001  
Title : DECODER AND DECODING METHOD  
Art Unit : 2133  
Examiner : TORRES, Joseph D.

745 Fifth Avenue  
New York, NY 10151

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**AMENDMENT UNDER RULE 116**

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patent  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action of February 11, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2.

**Amendments to the Drawings** begin on page 13 of this paper and include both an attached replacement sheet and an annotated sheet showing changes.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 14.